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30 January 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Request by Mr. Maxwell Raab of the White House Staff for Occasional Intelligence Briefings and Other Intelligence Material to be Made Available to Members of the Cabinet

1. Mr. Maxwell Raab of the White House staff, who is now acting as a sort of coordinator or executive secretary for the Cabinet, has recently been impressed with several briefings delivered to the White House staff and has indicated a desire that some of this information be presented to certain Cabinet members. Mr. Raab was especially impressed with a presentation some weeks ago by [REDACTED] of OSI on Soviet scientific manpower and on 25 January this same briefing was delivered to Mrs. Hobby, Mr. Nelson Rockefeller, Governor Petersen, Mr. Brownell (Head of the Office of Education) and Mr. Raab in Mrs. Hobby's office.

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2. Afterwards Mr. Raab reiterated his interest in similar briefings in the future for all the Cabinet members. On 29 January the AD/CI discussed the matter with the Director, who favored Mr. Raab's proposals and designated AD/CI to coordinate any future briefings or intelligence material provided by DD/I for this purpose.

3. The Director also expressed a desire to make sure that Governor Adams was aware of this situation and AD/CI will visit the White House in the near future to discuss the situation further with Mr. Raab and to confer briefly with Governor Adams to make sure that he is aware of, and approves, such arrangements as are made.

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11 February 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Mr. Arthur Minnich of the White House Staff Regarding White House Briefings

1. After this mornings White House briefings I had a talk with Mr. Minnich who said that in view of the new burdens placed upon the staff, especially regarding the closer coordination of policies and public pronouncements in the various departments, they found their schedule increasingly congested. He therefore believes it unlikely that they will have time for future briefings more often than once every two weeks. However, he does not expect to be able to give us firm guidance very far in advance, since on some occasions briefings may be interrupted for several weeks at a time, while on others they may want briefings on important developments at more frequent intervals.

2. He says they are well pleased with the briefings thus far and would welcome occasional detailed discussions of important subjects in addition to the periodic round-ups.

3. As things look now he believes they would be especially glad to have a discussion of the forthcoming Interamerican Conference on Thursday, 25 February. I also mentioned to him the possibility of a special briefing on Sino-Soviet relations within the next month or so. Mr. Minnich thought this sounded very good and will inquire among members of the staff.

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cc: AD/CI  
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CD/Regional  
CD/Western  
CD/Far East

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